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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----  
The First & Only Weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India

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Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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*The email addresses have been stated in this format to avoid their  
farming by crawlers and the resulting flood of junk mail.*

The BACK ISSUES are available as Printout, on CD, and on line at  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/Download/archives.htm>

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

July 2, 2005 was a landmark day for the people of Delhi; it was the  
inauguration of the second line of Metro that is also the first  
underground line in Delhi, a wonder of technology that has now touched  
the Indian capital. The line links Delhi University in North to Central  
Secretariat in Central Delhi that is the seat of the Government of  
India. This metro line runs through some of the most populous and old  
areas of the city and it is expected to bring a cultural change in the  
city.

The station immediately before the Central Secretariat is 'Patel Chowk'  
important for the philatelists as it is adjacent to 'Dak Bhavan' that  
houses the national headquarters of India Post, National Philatelic  
Museum, and the Philatelic Bureau.

The Metro in the first phase is linking thousands of commuters to their  
work place and the philatelists to the Philatelic Bureau. In Phase 2 it  
will cover a lot of residential areas including the residences of many  
philatelists.

Until next week, please enjoy the rest of the newsletter.

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Rishi Kochar, Manohar Lal,

We invite your inputs, please email to "writeback at stampsofindia.com"

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If you've found this newsletter useful, recommend it to a friend.  
Better still, forward a copy of this issue. Also, please mention this  
newsletter when contacting other philatelists.

Report the philatelic activities in your area for publication here. We shall reimburse the costs incurred on images, philatelic items issued, publications, courier and other agreed charges.

Please send your queries in detail (images welcome) on all matters related to Philately and Postal History of India and Indian States. We will attempt to find an answer for you.

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAMPED ENVELOPE IN LARGE SIZE

India Post will issue a stamped envelope in a revised size on July 15, 2005.

The revised size of 110 x 220 mm conforms to ISO (International Organization for Standardization) 269 and is identified as "Dimension Lengthwise" or more commonly as "DL". This size is meant for A4 sheet folded in thirds and A5 sheet folded in half lengthwise. It is a very widely used standard size.

This also conforms to the requirements of the Universal Postal Union that the envelopes for correspondence (1) measure at least 90 mm x 140 mm (3 1/2" x 5 1/2") and no more than 120 mm x 235 mm (4 3/4" x 9 1/4"); (2) be oblong, with the dimension of the long side being at least 1.414 times that of the short side; and (3) be made from paper weighing at least 63 gsm (grams per square meter).

The current rectangular size was introduced on May 1, 1969 as earlier also the square size was in use.

For a list of stamped envelopes issued in 2005, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005EN.htm>

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ANSARI STAMP RELEASED

Dr. Shakeel Ahmad, Minister of State for Communications & Information Technology released a commemorative postage stamp, in the denomination of rupees five, on July 1, 2005 on Abdul Qaiyum Ansari, a nationalist leader, eminent administrator and a social reformer with a firm commitment to national integration, secularism and communal harmony to coincide with the Birth Centenary at a special function at Patna.

Born on 1st July, 1905, Ansari, had his school education at his native place namely Dehri-on-Sone and Sasaram. He had his higher studies from Aligarh Muslim University, Calcutta University and Allahabad University. However his education was interrupted from time to time as he had actively involved in the struggle for the country's freedom. He was

taken as prisoner at his young age of 16 by the then British regime for taking part in the anti-British Non-Cooperation and Khilafat movements. He also took part in the students' agitation against the Simon Commission during its visit to Calcutta in 1928.

Ansari opposed the communal policies of the Muslim League and its demand for the creation of Pakistan by dividing India, as also its claim to represent the Muslims of India. This made him to start the Momin Movement in 1937-38 to counter the policies of the Muslim League as also for the upliftment of the backward Momin community. His party won six seats in the Bihar Provincial Assembly against the Muslim League in the general elections held in the pre-Independence era. He also condemned the Pakistani aggression on Kashmir during October, 1947. Ansari was a champion of the poor and the downtrodden who worked for the spread of education and literacy. It was due to his hard efforts and initiatives that the Government appointed the first All India Backward Classes Commission in the year 1953.

Alka Sharma designed the stamp, the First Day Cover, and the pictorial first day postmark. Brochure containing write-up and technical data was issued on the occasion. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs 2 each. India Security Press printed the stamps by Photo Gravure in the quantity of 0.6 million each in the sheets of 35 stamps.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2005, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005stamps.htm>

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NEW MEGHDOOT POSTCARDS

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:

0130 Apr 29: Registrar General of Births & Deaths, Hindi,  
0137 Jun 02: AIDS, Bihar, Hindi,  
0144 Jun 25: Child Labor, Tamil,

The complete illustrated list of Meghdoot Post Card is available at:  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/meghdoot.htm>

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

Jul 01: 106 Medium Regiment Silver Jubilee

The illustrated list of Army Postal Service Issues in 2005 is available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005aps.htm>

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Mar 21: Mumbai, Chandoli National Park

Forthcoming

Jul 12: Kolkata, Dwijendra Lal Roy Poet & Dramatist 142<sup>nd</sup> birth anniv  
Jul 13: Kolkata, Press Club Kolkata Diamond Jubilee  
Aug 01: Kolkata, Deshbandhu College for Girls Golden Jubilee

For an illustrated list of special postmarks and covers in 2005, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005pm.htm>

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SATISH MISRA AUCTION

Satish Misra [saishmisra2@rediffmail.com](mailto:saishmisra2@rediffmail.com) has mailed in the catalog of his next postal auction sale closing on August 16, 2005. The catalog details over 1200 lots having something for everyone. Misra may also be contacted on his mobile +91 94125 66374

For a list of auctions in India, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/auction.htm>

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STAMPS TODAY DEBUTS

Vijay Seth [stampstoday@rediffmail.com](mailto:stampstoday@rediffmail.com) has launched the first issue of a new bimonthly magazine entitled 'Stamps Today' on July 5, 2005. The 32 page publication is available for an annual subscription of Rs 150.

For a list of Indian periodicals, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/a602.htm>

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INDIAN STAMPS COMPANY WEB SITE

Indian Stamp Company, Meerut now has its own website, visit  
<http://www.stampexindia.com>. The Stampex is a brand owned by the Company.

For a list of philatelic websites from or on India, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/links.htm>

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Feb 17-18: Gurdaspur, GURDASPEX District Level, 1 cover

Aug 11-15: Coimbatore, South Zone

Contact: The Philatelists Coimbatore, 5 Eleventh Street, Tatabad, Coimbatore 641 012

Aug 13-15: Salem, BARAMAHAL COINSTAMPEX {REVISED DATES & VENUE}

Venue: Ponnusamy Gounder Thirumana Mandapam, Opposite New Bus Stand, SKS Hospital Road, Alagapuram

Dealers Fee: Rs.2000 for 3 days

Contact: N Vaithiyanathan, Treasurer, Baramahal Philatelic and Numismatic Association, 16 Gandhi Road, (Opposite Ganesan Hospital), Salem 636 007

For a list of exhibitions in 2005, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events.htm>

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MEETINGS

The schedule of meetings of the philatelic organizations in India is available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/clubmeet.htm>

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ERRORS FREAKS & ODDITIES:

Correction

The correct link for the previous issue is

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/efos/200443.htm>

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FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

The advertising is FREE for the subscribers of the Stamps of India Collectors Companion. Send in your ad, today.

Terms: 1. Only one ad at a time from a subscriber will be accepted.

2. Maximum 5 Lines, up to 64 characters per line.

3. All ads shall be published at the sole discretion of the editors who reserve the right to refuse any advertisement.

4. No correspondence regarding advertising will be entertained.

5. Stamps of India does not endorse any advertiser and can not be held liable for transactions of any advertiser.

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WANTED POSTMARKS & STAMPS of Saurashtra state with Girnar Hills and Wadhwan state, also pre-independence India with 'Delwara' postmarks

Dr PRADEEP JAIN [jain\\_pradeep2000@yahoo.com](mailto:jain_pradeep2000@yahoo.com) mobile: 09425554530

Buying FOLLOWING STAMPS IN SHEETS IN GOOD CONDITION:

Waterbirds se-tenant block of 4 - Rs 600 per block, Begam Akhtar - Rs 200 each stamp, Acharya Bikshu - Rs 10 each stamp. We pay cash or draft against delivery and can buy whatever quantity offered

PRADEEP KUMAR AGRAWAL [pradipphila@hotmail.com](mailto:pradipphila@hotmail.com) Mobile: 094310 11595

FOR PREMATURE ISSUES PONDICHERY & GURU GRANTH SAHEB, For Gandhi Miniature Sheets, For Gandhi booklet issued by the Philatelic Society of Rajasthan, for maxim cards of Gandhi issued by Ernakulam Bureau, Contact APURV DAGA [apurv\\_daga@rediffmail.com](mailto:apurv_daga@rediffmail.com) mobile: 09828450405

INDIAN POSTAL GUIDE 1869

The first issue of the official postal guide, reprinted by Stamps of India 2004, 236 pages, hardbound, enlarged from original octavo to A4 size, limited edition, Special price - Rs 2750 post paid anywhere in the world. It is now possible to pay by credit card

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/99999.htm>

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

READERS FORUM

<Dear Reader, Your feedback is important to us as it helps evolve the newsletter. Please send us have your thoughts and suggestions.>

Cdr G SRIRAMARAO, I.N.(Retired), Visakhapatnam

I am a retired Naval officer aged 64, and collecting stamps as a hobby for the last few years.

I am also a regular reader of your weekly philatelic News letter, on the net, which is extremely educative.

I am unable to understand what is a sheetlet. I have over the years collected miniature sheets in fact all issued so far, but when I saw in the news letter under sheetlets you have indicated that 52 sheetlets have been issued so far.

I only have the last set of stamps of the breeds of dogs issued in Jan 2005, which as per you is a sheetlet, which I purchased thinking that it is a sheet as I liked the sheet. But to my surprise I have not seen the other sheetlets with the philatelic bureau over the years. I also accidentally could get serial No.09 to 022 because I got a booklet of stamps of 89 issued by the postal department, in which all these sheets of 4/6 stamps are there.

If it is not too inconvenient for you will it be possible for you to kindly send me scans of few of the sheetlets, just for my education, say chennai museum 037-040 and temples 041-045.

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FEATURES & RESOURCES

Indian Laws Relevant to Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/laws.htm>

Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud related to Indian Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/cybercrime.htm>

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

STOLEN STAMPS FOUND ON EBAY

A Florida man with an eye for detail led the FBI to part of a stamp collection that showed up on eBay more than two decades after being stolen from the home of a collector.

Stamp collector Michael Perlman of Fort Lauderdale had pored over the black and white records of Charles J Starnes' collection. The original collection, with distinct pen marks and imperfections, was taken from Starnes' home in 1983. So when Perlman was browsing the Internet auction site eBay in May and saw some of the same pen marks and imperfections in color, he knew he had found part of Starnes' collection, which was worth an estimated \$350,000 when taken.

After making an \$11,400 bid for the set, Perlman contacted the seller, who told him that she had more items in Tampa. Perlman withdrew cash from the bank and set out for Tampa with an FBI agent. The two entered the seller's home on May 24, while other FBI agents waited outside. Perlman said the seller - a widow of a deceased coin collector - acted surprised when told the stamps had been stolen. The FBI seized the stamps in her possession, which turned out to be the most valuable 70 percent of Starnes' stolen collection. No one was arrested and the stamps were being held by the FBI as the investigation continues. The collection was expected to be returned to Starnes' survivors.

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NEWSSCAN

<We invite you to contribute clippings on philatelic and postal matters, from other print and electronic publications, for inclusion here>

Indian Express, July 4, 2005  
PHILATELY CLUB LOSES SHEEN

<http://cities.expressindia.com/fullstory.php?newsid=137557>

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WEB SITE UPDATES

STAMPS OF INDIA <http://www.stampsofindia.com>  
The Hub Site of Indian Philately

PRINCELY STATES REPORT <http://www.princelystates.com>  
Journal of Indian States History, Philately & Numismatics

STAMPS ON INDIA <http://www.stampsonindia.com>  
The site devoted to the stamps from all over the world on Indian topics

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ADMINISTRIVIA

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<http://www.stampsofindia.com/siteguide/w04.htm>

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